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OF THE AIR FORCE**

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**Weather**

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
WEATHER TRAINING**

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## Chapter 1

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**1.1. General.** This instruction establishes and standardizes training guidance for all USAF SOWT. For the purpose of this instruction, the term SOWT refers to the 1W0XX (Special Operations Weather Team [SOWT]) and 15WXC (Special Operations Weather Team Officer [SOWT-O]) Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) unless otherwise indicated. Unless otherwise specified in this document, SOWT will comply with all other AFIs, AFMANs and other Air Force Weather policy guidance and directives for conducting training.

1.1.1. SOWT personnel possess unique skill sets and capabilities. These skill sets are defined as the capability to shoot, move (to include methods of tactical insertion/exfiltration), and communicate, during the performance of Special Operations Forces (SOF) weather operations. SOWT are required to be world-wide deployable and trained in basic mobility processes, operational deployment planning, and the combat tactics, techniques, and procedures outlined in Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (AFTTP) 3-1 & 3-3, Guardian Angel. In this capacity SOWT must be current, proficient and capable of conducting the basic tasks identified in Chapter 2 for SOWT unique weather operations. Skills which qualify the tactical capabilities of SOWT are outlined in the 1W0XX CFETP.

1.1.2. The importance of having individuals formally trained in the skills described in the above paragraph ensures the depth of knowledge in these skills is available for On-the-Job-Training (OJT) within the unit. These formally trained team members share their experience and knowledge with other personnel and serve as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for related unit programs.

1.1.3. An effective training program standardizes skills and qualifications across a broad spectrum of conventional and SOF weather mission sets and is structured with clearly defined roles, divisions of responsibility, and coordinated efforts by personnel at all levels to provide commanders an objective and effective training program. Quality training begins by selecting trainers with a high degree of experience in their Air Force specialty, ensuring separation of training and evaluation functions, and providing the flexibility to address specific mission requirements. The end-state is a training system that provides a standardized and reproducible capability to all AF echelons with a vested interest in SOWT operations and ensures assigned SOWT are ready and capable to perform all required mission sets.

1.1.4. Personnel considered trained and currently qualified may conduct training and certification for common skills in either SOWT AFSC (1W0XX or 15WXC). Job proficiency is the hands-on training provided on the job, allowing the trainee to gain proficiency in tasks performed in the work center. Proficiency is job experience, gained during and after upgrade training, to build confidence and competence. Individual members will gain knowledge on career progression, general task, and deployment/unit type code (UTC) task knowledge, applicable to the AFSC, through a planned program of study involving CDCs or technical references listed in the applicable CFETP. Periodic competence observations of airmen in these tasks will be accomplished and documented IAW AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program on the Job Training Administration*. Task items in which a periodic

currency has been established will be considered trained and qualified to the specified level in the task until a point at which the frequency associated with that Aviation Resource Management System (ARMS) Task Identification expires. After this period the member will be unqualified in that task.

**NOTE:** AFSC unique training and certification will be conducted within that specific AFSC only (i.e., element leader qualification will only be certified by someone previously holding that duty position).

**1.2. Objective.** The objective of the SOWT training program is to develop and maintain a high state of mission readiness, facilitating immediate and effective employment in exercises, contingencies, limited war, and general war operations. Training should be structured to provide mission capability based on employment concepts identified in Joint Pub (JP) 3-05 - *Doctrine for Joint Special Operations*, (JP) 3-59 – *Joint Doctrine for Meteorological and Oceanographic Operations*; Air Force Doctrine Document (AFDD) 2-3.1 – *Foreign Internal Defense*, AFDD 2-7 – *Special Operations*, AFDD 2-9 – *Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operations*, AFDD 2-9.1 – *Weather Operations*; Air Force tactics, techniques, and procedures (AFTTP) 3-1 and 3-3 – *Guardian Angel*; the unit Designed Operational Capability (DOC) statement; and approved unit Mission Essential Task Listing (METL).

**1.3. Waiver Authority.** Unless otherwise specified, HQ AF/A3O-W is the waiver authority for this instruction. Requested waivers to the basic guidance of this instruction are forwarded through applicable training channels to HQ AF/A3O-W. Waivers to supplemental guidance will be handled by the agency that generated the supplement. Unless otherwise specified, the MAJCOM is the waiver authority for specific parachute or dive training requirements.

1.3.1. The waiver authority is directly related to who established the requirement (i.e. AF level for core tasks, MAJCOM for command unique tasks, etc.). Waivers are normally granted to maintain operational flexibility or when no other avenue exists to maintain the integrity of the OJT system. Waiver authority for core skills will be IAW AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program On-The-Job Training Administration* and AFI 36-2201 Vol 5, *Air Force Training Program Career Field Education and Training*. Waiver requests submitted for routine training must be very specific with a detailed assessment conducted to determine potential adverse affects to an airman's career path, skill-level upgrade, and must be accompanied with a "get well date" that defines the timeframe that waiver requests should no longer be received for that level of training.

1.3.2. Waiver requests will include the following information:

- 1.3.2.1. Identify waiver type (specify paragraph number being waived).
- 1.3.2.2. Full name and grade of individual requiring waiver.
- 1.3.2.3. Unit of assignment.
- 1.3.2.4. Current qualification, including special mission qualifications.
- 1.3.2.5. Qualification to which member is qualifying or upgrading (if applicable).
- 1.3.2.6. Scheduled training start date (if applicable).
- 1.3.2.7. Expected qualification or upgrade completion date (get well date, if applicable).
- 1.3.2.8. Date event last accomplished (if applicable).

1.3.2.9. Detailed justification for waiver.

1.3.2.10. Requesting unit point of contact (include name, rank, office symbol, e-mail address, and telephone number).

1.3.3. Units will maintain waiver logs for one year. The following information will be tracked:

1.3.3.1. Waiver type.

1.3.3.2. Approval authority.

1.3.3.3. Approval date.

1.3.3.4. Waiver number.

1.3.3.5. Waiver expiration date.

#### **1.4. Key Words Explained.**

1.4.1. "Will" and "shall" indicate a mandatory requirement.

1.4.2. "Should" indicates a preferred, but not mandatory, method of accomplishment.

1.4.3. "May" indicates an acceptable or suggested means of accomplishment.

1.4.4. "NOTE" indicates operating procedures, techniques, etc., considered essential to emphasize.

1.4.5. "CAUTION" indicates operating procedures, techniques, etc., which could result in damage to equipment or that are operationally sensitive which could result in political or legal ramifications if not carefully followed.

1.4.6. "WARNING" indicates operating procedures, techniques, etc., which could result in personal injury or loss of life if not carefully followed.

**1.5. Roles and Responsibilities.** IAW AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program, on the Job Training*, and the 1W0XX CFETP, specific responsibilities are listed below.

1.5.1. AF/A3O-W will:

1.5.1.1. In accordance with Program Action Directive 07-13, designate AFSOC as lead command for both the 15WXC and 1W0X2 career fields. Lead command is responsible for developing and standardizing training guidance and procedures in coordination with user commands. HQ AFSOC/A3 delegates this authority to HQ AFSOC/A3W who in turn coordinates with user commands, approves field continuation training requirements, and adjusts and fields short-notice specialized in-unit upgrades.

1.5.1.2. Serve as the SOWT and SOWT-O Air Force Career Field Manager (AFCFM) and overall authority for AFSC-specific training and evaluation policy. The SOWT and SOWT-O AFCFM will:

1.5.1.2.1. Review, approve and maintain all MAJCOM supplements to this AFI.

1.5.1.2.2. In the case of a non-SOWT AFCFM, leverage the designated lead-MAJCOM functional manager or delegated MAJCOM weather division chief as the primary point of contact for 15WXC and 1W0X2 issues.

1.5.1.2.3. Collect MAJCOM training trend analysis, then format and distribute as appropriate, in accordance with AF/IG guidance.

1.5.1.3. Validate SOWT Combat Mission Ready (CMR) and Continuation Training ARMS Task IDs. CMR ARMS Task IDs are directly linked to core training tasks within the 1W0XX CFETP. Changes or additions to SOWT weather core tasks require adjudication through the Air Force Weather Utilization and Training Workshop (U&TW) to validate corresponding changes to the 1W0XX CFETP. SOWT unique core tasks will be validated after an assessment of applicability across SOWT-owning commands.

1.5.1.4. Document and publicize SAF/IG-defined “critical” and “significant” Air Force Weather compliance/performance tasks residing on AF-level inspection checklists mandated by AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities*; AFI 15-180, *Standardization and Evaluation Program for Weather Operations*; AFI 15-135 Vol 2, *Special Operations Weather Standardization and Evaluation*; new SAF/IG initiatives, or operational requirements which are not included in other training documents like the 1W0XX CFETP or ARMS Task IDs.

1.5.1.5. Present SAF/IG-defined “critical” and “significant” Air Force Weather compliance/performance tasks to the U&TW for adjudication to validate as core-task additions to the 1W0XX CFETP and SOWT CMR ARMS Task ID List.

1.5.2. MAJCOM will:

1.5.2.1. Assign a functional manager responsible to administer and manage the command training program.

1.5.2.2. Review and maintain training publications and supplements.

1.5.2.3. Coordinate necessary revisions to AFI 36-2201, *Developing, Managing, and Conducting Training* to ensure SOWT and SOWT-O unique requirements are covered.

1.5.2.4. Coordinate revisions to the Career Field Education and Training Plan, Syllabus of Instruction (SOI), and Career Development Courses.

1.5.2.5. Develop MAJCOM Command Job Qualification Standard (CJQS), as required.

1.5.2.6. Develop MAJCOM Mission Essential Task Lists (METL), MAJCOM Master Task List (MTL), and Task, Conditions, and Standards (TCS). When determining TCS for Battlefield Airman common tasks (i.e. shoot, move and communicate), coordinate with the appropriate MAJCOM Battlefield Airman branch. (AETC exempt)

1.5.2.7. Review and approve unit TCS's. (AETC exempt)

1.5.2.8. Coordinate minimum 5-level upgrade requirements and disseminate to the field. (AETC exempt).

1.5.2.9. Forecast formal training quotas for SOWT and SOWT-O upgrade/continuation training.

1.5.2.10. Develop MAJCOM mission specific operational risk management (ORM) programs.

1.5.2.11. Maintain an ARMS Task ID list of all Combat Mission Ready and Continuation Training tasks. Submit proposed changes to the ARMS Task ID list through HQ USAF/A3O-WP for validation.

1.5.2.12. Conduct training and documentation for additional critical and significant performance tasks residing on AF-level weather compliance/performance inspection checklists as identified by AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities*; AFI 15-135 Vol 2, *Special Operations Weather Standardization and Evaluation*; new SAF/IG initiatives, or operational requirements which are not included in other training documents like the 1W0XX CFETP or ARMS Task IDs. Critical and significant training tasks requiring AF-level oversight, which are not documented within the 1W0XX CFETP or ARMS Task IDs, will be documented on an AFCFM-approved form in accordance with AFI 36-2201, Vol 3.

**NOTE:** AETC will provide copies of all SOWT formal course control documents and Career Development Course Charts to MAJCOM functional managers.

1.5.3. Wing/Group will:

1.5.3.1. Appoint a group SOWT Training and Standards NCO to assist units in meeting training and evaluation requirements.

1.5.3.2. Assign training requirements to SOWT members in the Aviation Resource Management System (ARMS).

1.5.4. Unit/Squadron Commander/Designated Representative will:

1.5.4.1. Ensure unit/squadron training programs are conducted safely, are mission oriented, and meet all requirements of this instruction, the 1W0XX CFETP, and the MTL.

1.5.4.2. Ensure unit METLs and TCSs are developed and reviewed. Determine unit-training objectives in support of approved METLs.

1.5.4.3. Validate and prioritize unit training plans.

1.5.4.4. Designate, in writing, unit/squadron task trainers. Task trainers are individuals certified to conduct task training only in OJT tasks which they are trained (non-core) and certified (core) to perform. As a minimum, they must meet all requirements for trainers listed in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3.

1.5.4.5. Designate, in writing, unit/squadron certifiers. Certifiers are qualified to conduct task training and certification for any task which they are trained (non-core) or certified (core) to perform. Certifiers must meet all requirements listed in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3.

1.5.4.6. Oversee the scheduling, execution, and documentation of training events to ensure METL objectives are achieved.

1.5.4.7. Appoint, in writing, a unit training manager (UTM) responsible for organizational training in accordance with AFI 36-2201 Vol 3.

1.5.4.8. Provide training feedback to the group commander on a quarterly basis (Quarterly Training Brief – QTB).

1.5.4.9. Certify unit quarterly qualification summaries (e.g. letter of X's).

1.5.5. Unit Training Manager (UTM) will:

- 1.5.5.1. Assist the unit/squadron commander in executing the unit training program.
- 1.5.5.2. Coordinate and schedule formal training requirements (formal courses/PME) with base-level and higher headquarters.
- 1.5.5.3. Instruct and assist trainers and supervisors in correct maintenance of AF Form 623, On-the-Job Training Record, IAW AFI 36-2201, AFTR program guidance and this instruction.
- 1.5.5.4. Compile and track training documentation to show training status.
- 1.5.5.5. Provide training status to the unit/squadron commander and Stan/Eval on a quarterly basis.
- 1.5.5.6. Provide the unit/squadron commander and Stan/Eval with a qualification summary (e.g. letter of Xs).
- 1.5.5.7. Use ARMS to track training.
- 1.5.5.8. Maintain a copy of the unit MTP (Master Training Plan).
- 1.5.5.9. Ensure deploying unit members travel with hard copies of their training records (i.e. print training records from AFTR). Ensure supervisors input training conducted during deployments into AFTR and ARMS upon return.

1.5.6. Trainers/Supervisors will:

- 1.5.6.1. Review ARMS to ensure only qualified personnel are assigned to execute training requirements.
- 1.5.6.2. Coordinate outside training requirements through the unit's UTM and Director of Operations (DO).
- 1.5.6.3. Document all training accomplished.
- 1.5.6.4. Identify training deficiencies and a plan to remedy them.
- 1.5.6.5. Ensure compliance with On-the-Job Training (OJT) responsibilities IAW AFI 36-2201, *Developing, Managing, and Conducting Training*.
- 1.5.6.6. Provide feedback on formal education and training. Identify and report tasks that were not adequately trained throughout pipeline training. The supervisor will identify training deficiencies using an IN TURN memo if a graduate evaluation survey is unavailable. This will be accomplished within 90 days of the individual arriving on station. The memo will be routed through the unit training manager, DO, CC, Group and MAJCOM. The data will then be forwarded to HQ AETC who will forward to HQ AF/A3O-W.
- 1.5.6.7. Document any failure to successfully complete initial, re-qualification, upgrade training, or a repetitive pattern of failure and/or marginal performance. Supervise and document performance that requires action for removal from training and permanent disqualification from the AFSC, IAW AFI 36-2201V3, AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges*, and AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*.



## 1.5.7. Individuals will:

1.5.7.1. Report and document all training accomplished and provide training feedback to respective trainer/supervisor.

1.5.7.2. Upon failure to successfully complete initial, re-qualification, upgrade training, or a repetitive pattern of failure and/or marginal performance, be subject to actions required for removal from training and permanent disqualification from the AFSC, IAW AFI 36-2201V3, AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges*, and AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*.

**1.6. Applicability.** Staff Essential Training Requirements. For the purpose of this instruction, staff personnel are defined as those assigned to positions that would not normally be required to deploy in a tactical role. Examples are SOWT assigned to the Air Staff, MAJCOMs, and AETC formal schools instructor positions. [Table 1.1](#) outlines the minimum essential tasks that SOWT staff members will remain current on.

**Table 1.1. – Staff Essential Training Requirements.**

Physiological Training (current AF Form 1274)
Flight Physical (Approved AF Form 1042)
Military Free Fall (MFF) Hanging Harness (TAR J102)
MFF Parachute Deployment (TAR J100)
Static Line Parachute Deployment (TAR S100)
PT Evaluation (IAW AFI 15-135 V2), (TAR SE50)
Dive Emergency Procedures (TAR DV63)
Open Circuit Dive (TAR D600)
Demolition Operations (TAR G290)
M-9 Qualification - TRQC (TAR G280)
M-4 Qualification - TRQC (TAR G286)

**NOTE:** Personnel are only required to maintain those skills in which they have a qualification.

## Chapter 2

### SPECIAL OPERATIONS WEATHER TRAINING

**2.1. General.** There are five types of training conducted: Initial Qualification Training (IQT), Combat Mission Ready (CMR), Continuation, Upgrade, and Ancillary training. This is not an inclusive list but one designed to guide units in the types of training encountered.

**2.2. Initial Qualification Training (IQT).** Initial Qualification Training provides initial unit certification to prepare newly assigned personnel for contingencies/deployments. It also serves as a vehicle to fill gaps in an experienced operator's contingency/deployment training shortfalls. Depending on previous qualifications, the IQT program can vary from training on local procedures to a complete accomplishment of all Combat Mission Ready Training outlined in paragraph 2.3. **Table 2.1** shows the recommended training timeline for newly assigned SOWT.

**Table 2.1. Initial Qualification Training Schedule.**

DAY	LEVEL OF TRAINING
<b>1</b>	Arrival on station
<b>1-30</b>	In-processing (Normally accomplished in the first 30 days)
<b>30-120</b>	Initial Qualification Training/Position Experience/Task Certification
<b>30-180</b>	Task Certification / Team Leader Upgrade

2.2.1. The unit/squadron commander will supplement any USAF standardized IQT programs with local, command, or unit unique information to ensure, at a minimum, the following are completed:

- 2.2.1.1. Initial assignment interview
- 2.2.1.2. MAJCOM missions, roles, and assets; service/command relationships
- 2.2.1.3. ORM as a systematic process
- 2.2.1.4. Military vehicle operator's license, permits, and authorizations
- 2.2.1.5. Mobility procedures and training
- 2.2.1.6. Review of all pertinent directives and publications, and operating instructions
- 2.2.1.7. Required ancillary training
- 2.2.1.8. Communications and operations security
- 2.2.1.9. Unit Standard Operating Procedures overview

**2.3. Combat Mission Ready (CMR) Training.** The objective of CMR training is to develop and maintain CFETP core-task technical and tactical skills, knowledge, and abilities to meet Air Force needs. CMR training is an essential part of the Air Force's training resource and plays a vital role in maintaining readiness and a quality force. CMR training requirements are listed in SOWT CMR ARMS Task ID list maintained by HQ AFSOC/A3W. CMR status is attained by an individual when certified in all CMR task IDs (core tasks) required to perform command and unit missions unless items are exempted or waived by the unit commander.

2.3.1. Non-Mission Ready (NMR) results from:

2.3.1.1. Failure in a core evaluation

2.3.1.2. Failure to complete training

2.3.1.3. Failure to maintain the frequency requirements

2.3.1.4. Decertification in a CFETP core task or non-qualification (i.e. DNIF, etc).

2.3.2. Individuals that are NMR will be retrained and recertified by an instructor/evaluator before being considered CMR.

2.3.3. SOWT will maintain their CMR status for 60 days after returning to home station from contingency or operational deployments. During the 60 day grace period, UTM's and team leaders will conduct a training records review and identify all training tasks that need to be accomplished in order for individuals to regain CMR status.

2.3.4. Physical Fitness. Maintaining fitness levels required for performing Special Operations Weather Environmental Reconnaissance operations require a level of physical fitness above the standard accepted for USAF personnel not routinely executing "operational air and space power functions in the forward battle space independent of an established airbase or its perimeter defenses" (AFPD 10-35, *Battlefield Airman*). Maintaining capability to provide skillful and sustained performance with the ability to recover from exertion rapidly is critical. Personnel will be afforded a minimum of two hours daily for physical training during normal duty hours, and will conduct training in a manner that ensures mission success. Physical fitness for SOWT will be evaluated IAW the requirements listed in AFI 15-135 Vol 2, Chapter 2.

2.3.5. Medical

2.3.5.1. All SOWT will maintain Self Aid and Buddy Care (SABC) and Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC). Commanders should pursue emergency medical qualifications for SOWT above those, through special courses of instruction that enhance tactical/first-responder medical skills.

**2.4. Continuation Training.** Continuation training is advanced training that exceeds the requirements of, and builds upon, IQT and CMR qualifications. Continuation training is a stepping stone for advanced qualification of SOWT members.

2.4.1. Below are the critical advanced qualifications and the required percentages needed to run an effective CMR training program and have the correct blend of advanced skills needed for effective employment of SOWT forces in exercises, contingencies, limited war, and general war operations. Percentages are applied to the unit operator population as a whole unless otherwise specified. The inability to maintain a level higher than the minimum percentages of advanced qualifications will result in impacts to operational readiness and will be noted as deficiencies in appropriate readiness reports.

2.4.1.1. Airborne Operations

2.4.1.1.1. Static Line Jumpmaster 30%

2.4.1.1.2. Military Free Fall (MFF) 70%

2.4.1.1.3. MFF Jumpmaster 20%

2.4.1.2. Maritime Operations

2.4.1.2.1. Advanced Survival Swimmer qualification	100%
2.4.1.2.2. Military Scout Swimmer qualification	25%
2.4.1.2.3. Military SCUBA qualification	15%
2.4.1.2.4. Small boat operations	100%

2.4.1.3. Environmental Reconnaissance Operations: Special operations weather units are required to maintain the ability to provide commanders with critical operational meteorological and oceanographic (METOC) data to make credible decisions about force employment, asset risk management, and force protection during peacetime training, emerging crisis and regional conflicts. The training listed below is instrumental in the accomplishment of environmental reconnaissance operations and commanders must make every effort to ensure currency and competency in the following areas:

2.4.1.3.1. Avalanche/Snow Stability Analysis and Forecasting (American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education, Level II)	100%
2.4.1.3.2. Riverine Analysis and Forecasting	100%
2.4.1.3.3. Terrain Reporting	100%
2.4.1.3.4. Operational Preparation of the Environment/Facility Site Survey	100%
2.4.1.3.5. Employ, Service, and Recover Unattended Ground Sensors	100%

2.4.1.4. Weather Integration into Joint Planning: SOWTs operating as weather SMEs to battle-staff operations must be well versed in tailoring and exploiting environmental information to meet the operational requirements of a particular joint force and integrating this information into the commander's decision-making processes, cycles and command and control systems. This includes but is not limited to Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) and Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Operational Environment (JIPOE) as described in Joint Publication (JP) 2-01.3, *Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Operational Environment*, and Joint Publication 5-0, *Joint Operation Planning*. This is most often accomplished by applying METOC combat critical weather thresholds across the full spectrum of air and ground mission profiles. The integration of METOC information into planning and decision-making processes enables commanders and assigned forces to anticipate, exploit, and mitigate weather impacts/effects on mission profiles thereby creating an asymmetrical advantage for friendly forces. SOWTs leverage operational climatology during long-range planning and transition to use of predictive weather data closer to the time of execution.

2.4.1.4.1. Prior to consideration for upgrade to element leader, team NCOIC, or team leader, all SOWTs and SOWT-Os will be trained and certified on all 7-level core training tasks within the 1W0XX CFETP. SOWT-Os using the 1W0XX CFETP as a job qualification standard (see [Chapter 3](#)) will also incur these 7-level training requirements for qualification as a team leader.

2.4.1.4.2. Regardless of skill/positional upgrade status, all SOWT deploying to conduct battle staff operations will be trained and certified in 7-level core tasks under the mission preparation section of the 1W0XX CFETP. This ensures SOWT serving on a battle staff are equipped with the skills required to effectively inject

environmental information into the joint operational planning process. Unit leadership will ensure this training requirement is met prior to deployment of SOWT.

2.4.1.5. Advanced Weapons Training: Weapons training is a basic combat skill required to maintain combat readiness and enhance individual/team survivability. In addition to primary weapons, personnel will be familiar with and trained on all assigned weapons/munitions to include heavy weapons and common foreign weapons. Commanders will pursue special courses of fire for SOWT that enhance combat shooting skills above the normal AFQC/TRQC course of instruction. All SOWT must perform weapons training annually in a manner that allows the individual to utilize weapons while conducting any combination of the Battle Task and Battle Drill objectives listed below under the time and stresses associated with simulated combat conditions.

2.4.1.5.1. Engage targets with weapons using night vision sights/devices

2.4.1.5.2. Employ hand grenades and other incendiaries

2.4.1.5.3. Move under direct fire

2.4.1.5.4. React to indirect fire (dismounted & mounted)

2.4.1.5.5. React to direct fire (dismounted & mounted)

2.4.1.5.6. Select, construct, and occupy temporary fighting position

2.4.1.5.7. Perform movement techniques during an urban operation

2.4.1.5.8. Engage targets during an urban operation

2.4.1.5.9. Enter a building during an urban operation

2.4.1.5.10. Avoid contact/ambush/IED/RPG

2.4.1.5.11. React to contact (visual, IED, direct fire)

2.4.1.5.12. React to ambush (blocked & unblocked, near & far)

2.4.1.5.13. Break contact drills

2.4.1.6. In addition to the continuation training outlined above, commanders will make every effort to have 100% of their SOWT forces current on all tasks listed in the SOWT Continuation Training ARMS Task ID list maintained by AFSOC/A3W. However, priority should be placed on completing all CMR training items prior to proceeding on to continuation training.

**2.5. Upgrade Training (UGT).** SOWT must complete all mandatory training requirements as outlined in the 1W0XX CFETP for award of 3-5-7-9 skill levels. Waiver requirements are described in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3. The basis for the criteria that the trainee is held to for passing for certification will be in the TCS for the applicable task line number of the CFETP.

2.5.1. UGT is linked to position qualification for SOWT in Element Leaders (ELs) and Team NCOICs. While SOWT-O criteria for AFSC skill-level upgrade differs from that for SOWTs, the 1W0XX CFETP will be used as a basis for training and positional qualification of SOWT-Os as Team Leaders (TL).

2.5.1.1. SOWT Element Leader: ELs are the first-line supervisors of SOWT personnel. They are responsible for executing day-to-day activities with the SOWT in their element.

They serve as a link between the lowest level SOWT and the team NCOIC. Qualification for EL is directly tied to SOWT 5-level upgrade training and also includes certain 7-level core training tasks. At a minimum, individuals being considered for element leader must have completed 5-level upgrade training and be signed off on 7-level core tasks under the mission preparation section of the 1W0XX CFETP. Additionally, they must be nominated by their team NCOIC and complete an EL task evaluation IAW AFI 15-135 Vol 2.

2.5.1.2. SOWT Team NCOIC: Team NCOICs manage the day-to-day activities of SOWTs and ensure they maintain combat readiness. They serve as a link between ELs and the TL and serve as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) for Special Operations Weather programs and operations to commanders and battle staff agencies. A solid understanding of SOWT tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) is required to be considered for a team NCOIC position. NCOIC qualification is directly tied to SOWT 7-level upgrade training. At a minimum, individuals being considered for team NCOIC must have completed 7-level upgrade training IAW 1W0XX CFETP, be nominated by their team leader, and complete a team NCOIC task evaluation IAW AFI 15-135 Vol 2.

2.5.1.3. SOWT Team Leader: TLs are SOWT-Os responsible for functional and operational oversight of SOWTs. They plan and execute team training, up-channel requirements, oversee administrative responsibilities, prepare SOWT for employment, and execute taskings as directed by the unit commander. While deployed, TLs perform command and control of fielded SOWT and execute critical planning and coordination duties within operations centers. They oversee mission after-action/cross-tell reports and lessons learned processes. The TL is a SME for Special Operations Weather programs and operations to commanders and battle staff agencies. A solid understanding of SOWT TTPs is required to ensure successful employment of SOWTs. SOWT-Os being considered for TL positions must be qualified in all 5- and 7-level core tasks in the 1W0XX CFETP, be nominated by the unit commander, and complete a TL task evaluation IAW AFI 15-135 Vol 2.

2.5.2. Timelines for upgrade training are determined by unit commanders but must meet the minimum requirements in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3.

2.5.3. Prior-service and/or sister-service personnel who have completed all UGT requirements may have their upgrade training time requirement waived for 5-level upgrade. Commanders may request waivers from AFPC through the MAJCOM functional manager IAW AFI 36-2201 Vol 3.

2.5.4. Task trainers will meet prerequisites outlined in AFI 36-2201 Vol 2. Trainers will maintain proficiency on all tasks, train only on those tasks they are qualified and current in as documented in their Air Force Form 623. Trainers are selected based on their experience level, ability to provide instruction and must attend the Air Force Training Course. They must receive an evaluation by another trainer within the unit prior to being qualified as a trainer. While task certifiers are not required for SOWT CFETP items as determined by the Air Force Career Field Manager, they are required for certain advanced skill qualifications covered by other AFIs. For these events, task certifiers will be trained and certified IAW AFI 36-2201 Vol 2 and identified by letter from the unit commander.

## Chapter 3

### TRAINING TRACKING

**3.1. General.** In order to eliminate dual documentation and reduce complexity, all training, qualification, and documentation resides directly under the Specialty Training Standard (STS) in the 1W0XX CFETP on AFTR. The primary systems for tracking all CMR and continuation training for SOWT are the Aviation Resource Management System (ARMS) and AFTR.

3.1.1. SOWT-O training, qualification, and documentation will be conducted under the 1W0XX CFETP for Initial Qualification Training (IQT) and upgrade training. This CFETP will be used as a master Job Qualification Standard (JQS) and the sole source document for conducting and recording all training/certification for SOWT-Os.

3.1.2. Intra-command and Inter-command Transfer of SOWT: Validated training completed prior to transfer will be honored by the gaining command. Members qualified in one command are considered qualified in like equipment and to the same level throughout the force when used for the same mission. This does not alleviate the need for the individual to review and be evaluated on local procedures and techniques.

3.1.3. Units will use both the SOWT CMR and continuation training ARMS Task ID lists maintained by AFSOC/A3W to assign training requirements for SOWT and SOWT-O members in the ARMS system. All core tasks within the 1W0XX CFETP are covered under the CMR list and all advanced qualifications are covered under the continuation training list. This is the primary method for tracking all CMR training.

3.1.3.1. ARMS AF Form 1522. All ground training, and aircraft qualifications (with ARMS events) will be annotated in the ARMS 1522 and turned in to the ARMS office.

3.1.3.2. ARMS Training Accomplishment Reports (TAR) will be completed for each task to document training accomplished.

### **3.2. Forms Adopted:**

AF Form 1274, *Physiological Training*;

AF Form 1042, *Medical Recommendations for Flying or Special Operational Duty*;

AF Form 1522, *ARMS Additional Training Accomplishment Report*;

AF Form 1098, *Special Task Certification and Recurring Training*.

PHILIP M. BREEDLOVE, Lt Gen, USAF  
DCS, Operations, Plans and Requirements

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

JP 2-01.3, *Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Operational Environment*, 16 June 2009

JP 3-05, *Doctrine for Joint Special Operations*, 17 April 1998

JP 3-59, *Meteorological and Oceanographic Operations*, 24 September 2008

AFDD 2-3.1, *Foreign Internal Defense*, 10 May 2004

AFDD 2-7, *Special Operations*, 16 December 2005

AFDD 2-9, *Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operations*, 17 July 2007

AFDD 2-9.1, *Weather Operations*, 3 May 2006

AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service Rating and Aeronautical Badges*, 25 September 2007

AFI 15-135 Vol 2, *Special Operations Weather Standardization and Evaluation*

AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*, 22 July 1994

AFI 36-2201, Vol 1, *Training Development, Delivery, and Evaluation*, 1 October 2002

AFI 36-2201 Vol 2, *Air Force Training Program Training Management*, 14 January 2004

AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program On-the-Job Training Administration*, 4 February 2005

AFPD 10-35, *Battlefield Airmen*, 4 February 2005

AFPD 11-4, *Aviation Service*, 7 March 2007

AFPD 15-1, *Atmospheric and Space Environmental Support*, 8 January 2001

AFPD 36-22, *Military Training*, 22 March 2004

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AFCFM**— Air Force Career Field Manager

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFDD**— Air Force Doctrine Document

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Document

**AFS**—Air Force Specialty

**AFSC**—Air Force specialty code

**AFSOC**— Air Force Special Operations Command

**AFTR**— Air Force Training Record

**AFTTP**— Air Force Tactics, Techniques and Procedures



**AFWA**— Air Force Weather Agency  
**ANG**—Air National Guard  
**ARC**—Air Reserve Component  
**ARMS**—Aviation Resource Management System  
**ASEV**— Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation  
**CC**—Commander  
**CDC**— Career Development Course  
**CFETP**—Career Field Education and Training Plan  
**CMR**— Combat Mission Ready  
**CPC**— Compliance Performance Checklist  
**DO**— Director of Operations  
**DOC**— Designed Operational Capability  
**EL**— Element Leader  
**ER**— Environmental Reconnaissance  
**IAW**— In Accordance With  
**IQT**—Initial Qualification Training  
**JIPOE**— Joint Intelligence Preparation of the Operational Environment  
**JP**— Joint Publication  
**JQS**— Job Qualification Standard  
**MAJCOM**—Major command  
**MC**— Mission Commander  
**MDMP**— Military Decision Making Process  
**METL**—Mission Essential Task Listing  
**METOC**— Meteorological and Oceanographic  
**MQF**— Master Question File  
**MTP**— Master Training Plan  
**NCO**—Non Commissioned Officer  
**NMR**— Non-Mission Ready  
**OJT**—On the Job Training  
**OPR**—Office of primary responsibility  
**QTB**— Quarterly Training Brief  
**SAV**— Staff Assistance Visit

**SEPWO**— Standardization and Evaluation Program for Weather Operations

**SME**— Subject Matter Expert

**SOI**— Syllabus of Instruction

**SOF**— Special Operations Forces

**SOP**—Standard Operating Procedure

**SOWT**— Special Operations Weatherman/Special Operations Weather Team

**SOWT**—O – Special Operations Weather Officer

**STS**— Specialty Training Standard

**TAR**— Training Accomplishment Report

**TCS**— Tasks, Conditions and Standards

**TTPs**— Tactics, Techniques and Procedures

**TL**— Team Leader

**UGT**— Upgrade Training

**UTA**—Unit Training Assembly

**UTC**— Unit Type Code

**UTM**— Unit Training Manager

### ***Terms***

**Certification**— a formal indication of an individual's ability to perform a task to required standards.

**Combat Mission Ready**—Status attained by an individual when certified in all core tasks and special qualifications required to perform command and unit missions unless exempted or waived.

**Core Evaluations**—Core evaluations consist of: the closed book examination, physical fitness test and employment evaluation.

**Element Leader**—SOWT 5-skill level qualified Amn/NCO that has completed mission upgrade training per duty position/CFETP/MAJCOM quality training plan.

**Evaluator**—Evaluators are qualified instructors that conduct both mission related evaluations requiring an AFTR IMT 803. As a minimum, they must meet all requirements for certifiers listed in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program on the Job Training Administration* and be interviewed and certified by the unit commander.

**Initial Evaluation**—An evaluation administered to personnel that are newly assigned 3 or 5 level graduates at their first assignments.

**Mission Essential Task List**—The complete list of mission essential tasks (METs) for any organization, also called METL.

**Non—mission-ready**—Status resulting from failure in core evaluations or not trained/decertified in core task.

**OJT**—Individual training in designated job skills provided to individual member's when serving in job positions in operational units.

**Qualification Expiration**—The date qualification expires, normally, the last day of month, 18 months from the last successful evaluation.

**Re—certification Evaluation**—An evaluation required due to an unsatisfactory rating on a previous evaluation or evaluation expiration.

**Recurring Evaluation**—An evaluation administered within a specified period of time on a recurring basis (e.g. annually, semi-annually, bi-annually).

**Standard**—An exact value, a physical entity, or an abstract concept, the appropriate authority, custom, or common consent sets up and defines to serve as a reference, model, or rule in measuring quantities or qualities, developing practices or procedures, or evaluating results.

**Tasks, Conditions, and Standards**—A method of evaluating performance. Defines a specific task to be accomplished, the conditions the task is to be accomplished under, and the standard that is to be met for the task.

**Task Evaluation**—An evaluation conducted as a quality control measure to evaluate members on specific tasks or qualifications, but not to satisfy a recurring evaluation requirement.

**Task Trainer**—An individual trained and qualified to teach others to perform specific tasks. Task trainers are certified to conduct task training in non-flight related OJT tasks that they are trained (non-core) and certified (core) to perform. They must meet all requirements for trainers listed in AFI 36-2201 Vol 3, *Air Force Training Program on the Job Training Administration*. Commanders may apply further restrictions in writing.

**Team Leader**—SOWT-O qualification for officers who have completed mission upgrade training per duty position/CFETP/MAJCOM quality training plan.

**Trainee**—An individual who is undergoing training.